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DIRECTORATE OF
INTELLIGENCE

Central Intelligence Bulletin

Secret

Nº 041

20 November 1972

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Approved For Release 2003/08/05 : CIA-RDP79T00975A023200080001-5

Approved For Release 2003/08/05 : CIA-RDP79T00975A023200080001-5

No. 0278/72
20 November 1972

Central Intelligence Bulletin

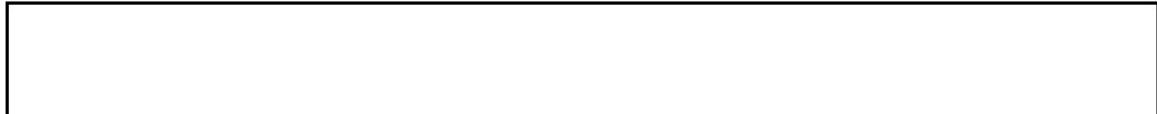
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C WEST GERMANY: Chancellor Willy Brandt has indicated that the first order of business for his re-elected government will be to bring the recently initialed East-West German political treaty into effect.

In a victory speech yesterday, following what was a great personal triumph, Brandt reiterated a campaign pledge that he will travel to East Berlin before Christmas to sign the treaty. He presumably will submit it for ratification shortly after signing.

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Ratification of the treaty and applying for UN membership should be pro forma.

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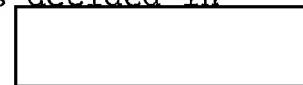
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Initial reaction to Brandt's victory ranged from a non-committal report by the Soviets, who clearly wanted Brandt re-elected, to expressions of delight by Danish Foreign Minister Andersen and the East Germans. Pankow immediately pointed out that the way is clear for the signing and ratification of the treaty. The East Germans, in fact, probably look on the election with mixed feelings. On one hand, they realize that Brandt is very popular in East Germany and fear that his election could ultimately cause them domestic problems. On the other hand, Brandt's re-election assures Pankow of enhanced international status. Several countries--particularly the Nordic states--will probably recognize East Germany in the very near future. Finland announced yesterday that it has decided in principle to recognize both Germanies.

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ARAB STATES: The Arab foreign ministers' conference in Kuwait, which ended Saturday, contributed nothing toward ending the general disarray among the Arab States.

After four days and eight sessions, the participants were unable to agree on a joint communiqué. Arab League secretary General Mahmud Riad admitted that efforts to mediate differences between Jordan and the fedayeen had failed and that the dispute was continuing "even more fiercely than before." The fedayeen and their supporters apparently made their standard demand that the terrorists be allowed to operate from all fronts, including Jordan. The Jordanians have made it clear repeatedly that the fedayeen will not be allowed back in Jordan. Efforts by Egypt, Syria, and Lebanon, with Kuwaiti backing, to convene an Arab summit meeting apparently got nowhere; Riad made no reference to such a meeting.

The conference was able to adopt several vaguely worded recommendations. These included the establishment of an Arab arms-production facility, the removal of all obstacles to commando action and permitting Arab citizens to volunteer for such action, and the establishment of a fund to finance the "liberation plan." The conference also reportedly approved an undefined military plan which is to be referred to the Arab chiefs of staff, who are to meet in Cairo in the first half of December. The plan is then to be submitted to the Arab Defense Council, composed of the Arab defense, foreign, and economy ministers, which is to meet in Cairo in January. [redacted]

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